



Transit Options

Spring 2005

Providing employers with smart commute solutions for their employees.



COMPANY PROFILE : WHO'S DOING WHAT

Eye Associates Northwest sees success with FlexPass program

When Eye Associates Northwest decided a year ago to eliminate a costly paid-parking option for employees, they started a FlexPass program at two branch locations that had limited parking, one on First Hill in Seattle and one in Kirkland.

The company not only saved money but was able to offer valuable alternative commuting options to employees with the FlexPass while making more parking available for customers. According to Lisa Cleveland, HR Manager, "our pilot program for FlexPass was hugely successful for our company and will be expanded to cover other locations this year." Many of the locations, normally

too small for a FlexPass program can be wrapped into a multiple-sites contract and Eye Associates Northwest will be able to offer this great benefit to employees at any location in King County regardless of size.

Too small for a FlexPass program?

If your company doesn't meet the FlexPass required minimum of 20 employees, don't despair. Call us to find out about other excellent ways to provide a commute benefit. Metro may even be able to share the cost with you. Call 206-263-3444 for details.

PRODUCTS FOR YOUR COMMUTERS

Commute Solutions: Metro's low-cost employer consulting service

Did you know that King County Metro has a low-cost consulting service that can help you design and implement a comprehensive commute program for your employees?

If your company needs more than just bus pass and ticketbook information, Metro's Commute Solutions may be the ticket. Commute Solutions offers a range of services to businesses. Take your commuter benefits to a whole new level. Six services include:

Employee Commute Survey to give you a realistic view of how your employees get to work;
Site Analysis for bus routes, parking, vanpools and more;
Commute Program Development to define components,

eligibility, incentives;

Employee Commute Brochure to increase awareness and elevate your benefit;

Commuter Event Staffing to help employees better understand their options;

Rideshare Select Services tailored to meet the rideshare potential at your site.

Commute Solutions is nimble enough to help as much or as little as you need. For more information, visit <http://transit.metrokc.gov/prog/employer/ctr-consult.html> or call 206-263-3444.

IN THE NEWS

Tell your employees they can win

This Spring, employees can win fabulous prizes by making commuting changes for the better. Whether they commute by riding the bus or train, in a carpool, a vanpool or vanshare, they have prize opportunities through these promotions:

Rideshareonline.com

Register at Rideshareonline.com and carpool or vanpool before May 27. You, or one of your employees could be the grand prize winner of a 7-day trip for two to New York City *or* Disney World in Orlando, Florida. Plus, there will be weekly drawings for \$50 MasterCard gift cards just for registering at *RideshareOnline.com*. Follow instructions online.

Freewheeling

Freewheeling - Vanpooling is your trip your way. Join a vanpool by July 31 and you may be eligible for a \$75 cash reward. More for drivers and bookkeepers. If your company has a vanpool/vanshare allowance or a FlexPass program, let your employees know about this chance to really cash in. Go to *RideshareOnline.com* or call 206-625-4500 to find out details.

\$200 for employees who stop driving to work

Commuters who live or work in the City of Seattle and stop driving alone to work can receive a \$200 VISA cash card. It's a feature of the City of Seattle's One Less Car Challenge. www.seattle.gov/waytogo or 206-615-1550.

Company

Contact name

Position/Department

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone

Fax

E-mail address

Number of employees at your company

Yes, please send these free materials so our employees can learn about their commuting choices:

- ☐ Posters (two)
- ☐ King County Metro transit system map
- ☐ Carpool, Vanpool & Vanshare Materials
- ☐ Ways my company can buy bus passes or vouchers to give or sell to employees.
- ☐ Tax laws for commute-related expenses
- ☐ Commute Solutions booklet
- ☐ Past two issues of Transit Options newsletter

Our company offers the following commute benefits:

- ☐ None ☐ Bus passes at work ☐ Pre-tax payroll deductions for employees
- ☐ Employer-paid benefit of \$ _____ ☐ Free parking

☐ We'd like to give employees better commute options. Please have someone call me to discuss options and opportunities for starting or enhancing a commute program.



CTR Services, YES-TR-0650
400 Yesler Way
Seattle, WA 98104-2683

Please route to:

- ☐ General Manager
- ☐ Human Resources
- ☐ Payroll



Transportation Resources

Metro Online:
<http://transit.metrokc.gov>

Employer commute services:
<http://transit.metrokc.gov>
Select 'Programs' then 'Employer Commute Services' or 206-263-3455

Carpool, vanpool & vanshare services
www.RideshareOnline.com
206-625-4500 or 800-427-8249

Bus pass & ticketbook purchases
<http://transit.metrokc.gov> or
206-624-PASS

Other Transportation Agencies

Community Transit
www.commttrans.org or 800-562-1375

Kitsap Transit
www.kitsaptransit.org
360-373-2877 or 800-501-RIDE

Pierce Transit
www.ptbus.pierce.wa.us
253-581-8000 or 800-562-8109

Sound Transit
www.soundtransit.org or 206-398-5000

Washington State Ferries
www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries
206-464-6400 or 888-808-7977

Flexcar
www.flexcar.com or 206-391-8825

Contact Information

Employer Program Information:

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Transit Options is published 3 times a year by the Product Sales Group at Metro Transit's Commute Trip Reduction Services to provide employers with the information needed to offer commute assistance to employees.

An electronic version of this newsletter is available at the Employer Commute Services website-- see left.



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